

REMARKS

Canceled claims 3-7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,449,302 ("Nachbur"). Canceled claims 3-7 have been replaced by new claims 30-34.

Claim 30 requires at least one of monomer unit b and monomer unit c in both Formulas 2 and 3 to be present. Support for this amendment appears in the examples set forth in the specification beginning on page 12, line 10 and extending to page 18, line 10. Further, in page 4, the substituent groups R1-R6 are clearly identified. Thus, the monomer units b and c of both Formulas 2 and 3 are clearly identified as possibly being present, examples are provided with them being present, and therefore the amendment of claim 3 to require at least one of b or c being present is clearly supported by the specification as filed.

In contrast, Nachbur merely describes a polymer composed of vinylidenechloride, butadienesulfone, an ethlenically unsaturated film forming monomer and an ethlenically unsaturated hydrophilic monomer. The specific example of the copolymer in Nachbur includes vinylidenechloride, butadienesulfone, methylacrylate and acrylic acid. As a result, none of the Nachbur examples teach or suggest the polymers of Formulas 2 and 3 *wherein at least one of the monomer units b or c must be present.*

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the anticipation rejection of claim 3 (new claim 30) in view of Nachbur has been traversed and that claim 30 is allowable because Nachbur does not suggest a polymer of Formulas 2 and 3 with at least one of b and c being present. Because claim 30 is allowable, applicants respectfully submit that remaining claims 31-34 are allowable as well.

With respect to new claim 35, applicants respectfully submit that this claim is allowable as Nachbur does not teach or suggest the polymers of either Formula 2 or 3 wherein the monomer units b and c *must be present* in an amount up to and including 50mol% and 80mol% respectively. This claim is clearly support by the specification for the same reasons that claim 30 is supported.

Because applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now allowable, an early action indicating the allowability of this application is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-2855.

Respectfully submitted,

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